

amendment of the House to the bill (S. 2), to promote the achievement of national education goals, to measure progress toward such goals, to develop national education standards and voluntary assessments in accordance with such standards and to encourage the comprehensive improvement of America's neighborhood public schools to improve student achievement, having met, after full and free conference, have agreed to recommend and do recommend to their respective Houses as follows:

That the Senate recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the House to the text of the bill and agree to the same with an amendment as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted by the House amendment, insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE AND TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the "Neighborhood Schools Improvement Act".

(b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title and table of contents.
Sec. 2. Findings and purposes.

TITLE I—NATIONAL EDUCATION GOALS

Sec. 101. Purpose.
Sec. 102. School readiness.
Sec. 103. School completion.
Sec. 104. Student achievement.
Sec. 105. Mathematics and science.
Sec. 106. Family literacy and lifelong learning.
Sec. 107. Safe, disciplined, and drug-free schools.

TITLE II—COMPREHENSIVE RESTRUCTURING

Sec. 201. Comprehensive restructuring.

TITLE III—AMENDMENTS TO THE GENERAL EDUCATION PROVISIONS ACT

Sec. 301. National assessment of educational progress.
Sec. 302. Responsibility of States to furnish information concerning uses of Federal funds.

TITLE IV—AMENDMENTS TO THE CARL D. PERKINS VOCATIONAL AND APPLIED TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION ACT

Sec. 401. Assessment of educational progress activities.
Sec. 402. National Occupational Information Coordinating Committee.

TITLE V—AMENDMENT TO THE DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE EDUCATION ACT

Sec. 501. Eisenhower national programs.

TITLE VI—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Sec. 601. Values in school study.
Sec. 602. Parents as teachers review.
Sec. 603. Buy American.
Sec. 604. Assessment study.
Sec. 605. Report and authorization extensions.
Sec. 606. Definitions.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.

(a) **FINDINGS.**—The Congress finds that—

(1) to achieve the National Education Goals each State must develop and implement widely shared, comprehensive strategies to support the revitalization of all public elementary and secondary schools;

(2) educational improvement will require statewide reform strategies and an unshakable long-term commitment by State policymakers;

(3) educational improvement will require adequate commitment and investment from the Federal Government;

(4) educational reform will require that teachers and school leaders play the central role in designing and implementing changes at the school level and they must have ac-

cess to high-quality training and professional development to maximize that role and increase their effectiveness;

(5) ultimately, meaningful educational reform will not be achieved without coordinated changes at the local educational agency and school level;

(6) innovative and successful reform initiatives which are underway in schools throughout the Nation are not being replicated in sufficient number by schools where identical practices would further the National Education Goals;

(7) teachers, principals, parents and members of the local community can, in collaboration with the local educational agency, design effective education reform strategies to achieve the National Education Goals and be strongly committed to such plans if these individuals have access to the resources to implement such plans;

(8) schools receiving resources under this Act to implement a reform plan should be required to show improved academic achievement and progress towards the achievement of the National Education Goals;

(9) the Federal Government can best encourage efforts to achieve the National Education Goals by making resources available to States for the development of coherent and coordinated education reform plans and to assist local educational agencies and neighborhood public schools in implementing education reform efforts; and

(10) the Federal Government can also encourage reform by establishing an independent, non-partisan mechanism to measure progress toward the achievement of the National Education Goals.

(b) **PURPOSE.**—It is the purpose of this Act to provide resources to assist States, local educational agencies, and neighborhood public schools in the design and implementation of education reform strategies to improve student achievement and achieve the National Education Goals.

TITLE I—NATIONAL EDUCATION GOALS

SEC. 101. PURPOSE.

It is the purpose of this title to establish a plan of action for the initial steps that the Federal Government must take in order to assist teachers, school leaders, parents, State and local governments, and businesses in the joint effort of achieving the National Education Goals as outlined in this title.

SEC. 102. SCHOOL READINESS.

(a) **FINDINGS.**—The Congress finds that the Federal Government should expand its commitment to school readiness to ensure that all children are ready and able to begin school.

(b) **POLICY.**—It is the goal of the United States that, by the year 2000, all children in America will start school ready to learn. As part of the joint effort of Federal, State, and local governments, organizations, institutions and individuals in achieving this goal, the Federal Government will take steps—

(1) to provide Head Start services to every eligible child who needs such services;

(2) to provide sufficient funding for the special supplemental food program for women, infants, and children so that all potentially eligible women, infants, and children have access to the services provided by the program;

(3) to assure that all women have access to affordable, high quality prenatal care and that all infants and children have access to affordable, high quality comprehensive and preventive health care, by providing sufficient funding for programs, including the Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant, the Community and Migrant Health Center Grant Program, Medicaid, and the Childhood Immunization Grant Program;

(4) to expand funding for the Even Start and Follow Through Acts to allow programs

to reach all parts of the United States and to allow each State to fund a sufficient number of programs throughout the State so that approaches are available for local educational agencies, the State educational agency, and other organizations to adopt and implement;

(5) to provide sufficient funding to assist States in providing a free appropriate public education to preschool children with disabilities and early intervention services to infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act; and

(6) to assure that every child participating in early childhood education is taught by a well-qualified teacher.

SEC. 103. SCHOOL COMPLETION.

(a) **FINDINGS.**—The Congress finds that in order for the Nation to improve its economic competitiveness, each individual in the United States must be educated to his or her greatest potential and must be encouraged to finish secondary school.

(b) **POLICY.**—It is the goal of the United States that, by the year 2000, the high school graduation rate will increase to at least 90 percent. As part of the joint effort of Federal, State, and local governments, organizations, institutions and individuals in achieving this goal, the Federal Government will take consistent steps—

(1) to expand funding for secondary school dropout prevention and reentry programs and basic skills programs to allow programs to reach all parts of the United States and to allow each State to fund a sufficient number of programs throughout the State so that approaches are available for local educational agencies, the State educational agency, and other organizations to adopt and implement; and

(2) to collect uniform, reliable data from the States with respect to school completion rates.

SEC. 104. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT.

(a) **FINDINGS.**—The Congress finds that American students are falling behind students in other industrialized nations on tests measuring abilities in all academic subject areas.

(b) **POLICY.**—It is the goal of the United States that, by the year 2000, American students will leave grades 4, 8, and 12 having demonstrated competency over challenging subject matter including English, mathematics, science, foreign languages, history, and geography, and every school in America will ensure that all students learn to use their minds well, so they may be prepared for responsible citizenship, further learning, productive employment, and independent living in our modern economy. As part of the joint effort of Federal, State, and local governments, organizations, institutions and individuals in achieving this goal, the Federal Government will take steps—

(1) to provide appropriate educational assistance for all disadvantaged children in the United States by fully funding chapter 1 of title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 in order to provide for the participation of all eligible children under such chapter;

(2) to fulfill the commitment made by the United States in 1975 to provide 40 percent of the costs of educating children with disabilities;

(3) to promote efforts that encourage all students to be involved in activities that promote and demonstrate good citizenship, community service, and personal responsibility; and

(4) to encourage highly qualified individuals to become teachers and to remain in the teaching profession.

SEC. 105. MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE.

(a) **FINDINGS.**—The Congress finds that—

(1) most students in the United States are behind students from other industrialized